

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 ACDA-05 SAM-01 SAJ-01 AF-06 EURE-00 /084 W

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P R 171456Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9651

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FI, AO

SUBJECT: FINLAND PREPARING FORMAL RECOGNITION OF ANGOLAN PEOPLES
REPUBLIC

REF: HELSINKI 310 (NOTAL)

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE TOLD POLOFF TODAY (FEB 17) THAT
FORMAL RECOGNITION OF PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA EXPECTED TO
BE COMPLETED AND ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK. FINAL DECISION IS
EXPECTED FRIDAY (FEB 20) WHEN GOVERNMENT MEETS IN FORMAL
SESSION WITH PRIME MINISTER MIETTUNEN AS ACTING PRESIDENT.
DECISION WILL NOT BE MADE WITHOUT APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT
KEKKONEN HOWEVER, WHO IS VACATIONING IN BRAZIL. MINISTRY
NOW AWAITING HIS EXPECTED CONSENT IN RESPONSE TO CABLE
FORWARDED THROUGH FINNISH EMBASSY IN BRASILIA.

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2. WEEKEND RESPONSE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY'S ANNOUNCEMENT

THAT IT HAD BEGUN STEPS TO RECOGNIZE ANGOLA (REFTEL) HAS BEEN GENERALLY POSITIVE ALTHOUGH NATION'S LARGEST NEWS-PAPER, INDEPENDENT HELSINGIN SANOMAT, WHILE APPROVING MINISTRY'S DECISION, QUESTIONED ITS JUSTIFICATION -- PARTICULARLY ASSERTION THAT "THE TERRITORY OF ANGOLA IS PRACTICALLY SPEAKING COMPLETELY UNDER THE MPLA'S EFFECTIVE CONTROL." COMMUNISTS, SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, AND TRADE UNIONS HAVE ALL ISSUED STATEMENTS CALLING FOR IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION. FOREIGN MINISTER SORSA CABLED TEXT OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S FRIDAY PRESS RELEASE TO "ANGOLAN" FOREIGN MINISTER DOS SANTOS. MEANWHILE AN ANGOLAN "TRADE UNION" DELEGATION COMPOSED OF NOE DA SILVA SAUDE AND ARISTIDES VAN DUNEM HAVE ARRIVED IN HELSINKI TO GIVE NEW IMPETUS TO MPLA PROPAGANDA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HELSIN00319
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760059-0089
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760244/aaaabmin.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 HELSINKI 310
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FINLAND PREPARING FORMAL RECOGNITION OF ANGOLAN PEOPLES REPUBLIC
TAGS: PFOR, FI, AO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006